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## The North Carolina Museum of History Opens Two New Exhibits This April—and More Programs!



For images, follow this [Dropbox link](#). Captions and credits are listed after program descriptions.

**March 30, 2021 (RALEIGH, N.C.)** — April 6th marks the 104th anniversary of US entry into World War I, an action that is part of a new military history exhibit opening that day at the North Carolina Museum of History. The exhibit will honor the state's men and women in uniform and allow additional exploration with accompanying programs. In addition, the museum will debut another exhibit in late April, one that focuses on the tourism industry of North Carolina—and will be perfect for summer visits! The museum and [Museum Shop](#) continue to be open to the public with [special hours and protocols](#)! Admission is free!

### Top Five Things to Do This Month

- Honor our state's veterans by strolling through the museum's [new military exhibit](#) to learn about some of their experiences on the front line.
- [Tune in from home](#) to learn about one of the amazing events that led to North Carolina being the first colony to work towards independence from England.
- Explore our [Wednesday afternoon online programming](#) for young history enthusiasts.
- Celebrate the 51st anniversary of the world's largest environmental movement, [Earth Day](#), by hearing about the recycling programs in the City of Raleigh.

- Travel back in time to [North Carolina as “Variety Vacationland”](#) (opens Apr. 30)—complete with vintage photographs, marketing campaign materials, and even some souvenirs.

Read on for a current listing of April events, but follow us on social media to learn about updates and additional programs. You can also stay up to date on all events and exhibits by accessing the museum website, [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org).

Programs are **FREE** unless otherwise noted; advance registration, at [NCMOH-programs.com](http://NCMOH-programs.com), is generally required to receive a confirmation email with information about joining online presentations.

Did you miss a previous program? Many museum programs are being archived on the museum [YouTube](#) channel so you can enjoy them any time.

The museum is open Good Friday and Saturday but **closed on Easter Sunday**, along with our usual closures on Mondays. While we’re open, be sure to visit and create family memories in [Beach Music: Making Waves in the Carolinas](#) or recall your whereabouts in [The Story of North Carolina](#). The Museum Shop is also open during most museum hours, with an assortment of exhibit-related items and selections related to some programs.

\*Events with asterisks note family and kid-friendly programming.

*\*Exhibit Opening: [Answering the Call: Experiences of North Carolina’s Military Veterans, 1898–1945](#)*  
Tuesday, Apr. 6, 9 a.m.

North Carolinians from diverse backgrounds have always answered the nation’s calls to service. Although their motivations for serving varied, their experiences across the decades—with similarities and differences—had profound impacts on their lives. This initial section of an expanded, new military history gallery will lead visitors on a voyage of discovery related to many 20th-century conflicts—from the Spanish-American War (1898) through World War II (1941–1945)—using a series of artifacts, vignettes, graphics, video clips, and oral histories.

*Answering the Call* was made possible by funding from the North Carolina Museum of History Foundation and the North Carolina Museum of History Associates; by a grant from the US Department of Defense, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of World War II with a series of programs and events focused on honoring WWII veterans and helping the American people gain a better understanding of their military’s history; and by support from the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, with special thanks to the State Archives of North Carolina and the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. The Museum of History is also pleased to have CBS17 News as the sole media sponsor for this exhibit.

*Note: A simulated battlefield environment—including bright lights, flashing lights, and loud noises—in this exhibit may be disturbing to children or visitors with health concerns. In addition, some images may not be suitable for some visitors.*

*\*Tar Heel Tales: [Alma and How She Got Her Name](#)*  
Wednesday, Apr. 7, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 5 and up; parents are encouraged to participate with their children during the program.

Alma has six names—isn't that TOO many? After author-illustrator Juana Martinez-Neal reveals the family stories behind those names—Alma comes to think, perhaps, they might be a perfect fit after all! Listen along, then learn a way to tell your own family story.

#### History and Highballs: The Halifax Resolves

Thursday, Apr. 8, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Help us honor the anniversary of North Carolina's Halifax Resolves as we dive into the fascinating events that resulted in North Carolina being the first colony to move toward independence from England. Larry Armstrong, chair of the Historic Halifax Restoration Association, will introduce the resolves from a historical viewpoint; afterward, Vann Evans, audiovisual materials archivist, will take a special behind-the-scenes look at archival items—including notations in the minute book of the 4th Provincial Congress that met in Halifax—related to the resolves that exist in the state's archives.

#### History at High Noon: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

Wednesday, Apr. 14, noon–1 p.m. via Zoom

Get a jump on Earth Day 2021 (Thursday, Apr. 22)—the 51st anniversary of the world's largest environmental movement—by learning the variety of recycling programs offered by the City of Raleigh. The city's efforts support economic development and protect our environment by extending the life of landfills and helping reduce pollution.

#### \*History Corner: Fantastic Foods

Wednesday, Apr. 14, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 6–9; parents are invited to participate with their children during the program.

Blueberries, barbecue, peanuts, pickles, and more! Learn where these North Carolina foods came from and who brought, grew, or created them.

#### \*History Hunters: Corner Cure-All

Wednesday, Apr. 21, 1–2 p.m. via Demio

Ages 10–13

Take a virtual tour through our 1920s pharmacy and learn about remedies—and frozen treats and novelties and candy—of the past.

#### The Forgotten B-1 Band

Wednesday, Apr. 21, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Celebrate the museum's recent opening of its new military history gallery with this second installment of the *Answering the Call*: World War II Lecture Series. This month, Alex Albright, author of *The Forgotten*

*First: B-1 and the Integration of the Modern Navy*, will speak about the US Navy's almost forgotten B-1 Band. Comprised primarily of Black students attending Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, the regiment's 45 members became the first African Americans to serve in the navy at a rank higher than cook or mess steward, making them frontline pioneers in breaking the navy's color barriers at a time when racial unrest prevailed.

#### 23rd Annual Spring Frolic Fund-Raiser

Thursday, Apr. 22, 7 p.m.

Visit [ncmoha.com](http://ncmoha.com) to join and receive your invitation, or call 919-814-7052 for information.

Join museum members, virtually, as we celebrate our honorees, Dorothea and Geff Bitler, with an online auction and other events. Have fun while raising money for exhibitions, community and educational outreach programs, and acquisition of artifacts—for *your* Museum of History!

#### Coffee with a Curator: Textile Tuesday at Eight

Tuesday, Apr. 27, 10–10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Look back over eight years of the popular social media feature #TextileTuesday with the two museum curators who write that weekly feature—Diana Bell-Kite, Curator of Cultural History, and RaeLana Poteat, Chief Curator. Since April 2013, their weekly posts have highlighted a textile from the museum collection, presenting more than 400 rarely seen objects—some of the most beautiful and interesting textiles in our collection—and their stories to the public. Bell-Kite and Poteat will share a few of their favorite textiles and stories during this 20-minute program, then answer questions from the virtual audience.

#### History and Highballs: A Walk in the Woods with Carl Sandburg

Thursday, Apr. 29, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Don't let National Poetry Month end without this virtual evening of prose and storytelling from the world of American poet, biographer, journalist, civil rights activist, and musician Carl Sandburg. Sandburg called Flat Rock (Henderson County) home from 1945 until his death in 1967, living with his family at the 245-acre farm known as Connemara.

The evening will begin with Ella Oursler, Flat Rock poet, reading Sandburg's poem, "I Am the People, the Mob." Victoria Flanagan will then present some history about the Sandburg home—which was known by its original owner, Christopher Memminger, as Rock Hill. Her stories will be followed by Steve Carlisle's more intimate view into the relationship and lives of the Sandburgs—Carl and his wife, Lilian Steichen "Paula" Sandburg. Oursler will end the evening with a reading of her award-winning poem, "When Dreams Are Overrun."

Presented by MOHA/museum members. Join, and support exhibitions, community and educational outreach programs, and acquisition of artifacts: visit [ncmoha.com](http://ncmoha.com) for information.

\*Exhibit Opening: *Are We There Yet? North Carolina's Variety Vacationland, 1930s–1970s*

Friday, Apr. 30, 9 a.m.

North Carolina's "Variety Vacationland" campaign was successful in creating a unified tourism industry in the state from the 1930s to the 1970s. It did so by depicting the Old North State as both modern and progressive while maintaining strong ties to its past. However, true to the Jim Crow era, most sites promoted were marketed (and accessible) to White tourists only; people of color and disadvantaged segments of the population were neglected and exploited, an attitude this exhibit tries to point out where possible. Panels include dozens of photographs from sites promoted in campaign materials, audio and video components of the campaign, and some souvenirs from the period.

\*Tar Heel Junior Historian Association Annual Convention

Friday, Apr. 30, 9:45 a.m.–1 p.m. virtually

For registered THJHA clubs only.

Junior historian clubs from across the state will meet virtually to hear results of contests, enjoy history-oriented games and online workshops, and "meet" club members from other schools in grades 4 through 12.

IMAGES: [Dropbox link](#), caption and credits

Image – April programs press release logo

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Tar Heel Tales: *Alma and How She Got Her Name*

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History and author-illustrator Jauna Martinez-Neal

Image – History Corner: Fantastic Foods

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – History at High Noon: Reduce, Reuse Recycle! logo

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – History and Highballs: The Halifax Resolves

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – History and Highballs: A Walk in the Woods with Carl Sandburg

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – *Answering the Call* logo

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – *Are We There Yet?* logo

Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – NCMOHA Spring Frolic Fund-Raiser  
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

Image – Answering the Call: World War II Lecture Series—The Forgotten B-1 Band  
Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of History

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**For information about the NC Museum of History**, a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, call 919-814-7000 or access [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org) or follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

### **About the NC Museum of History**

The North Carolina Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, fosters a passion for North Carolina history. This museum collects and preserves artifacts of state history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. **Admission is free.** Last year, more than 465,000 people visited the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

### **About the Smithsonian Affiliations Network**

Since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History has been a Smithsonian Affiliate, part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share Smithsonian resources with the nation. The Smithsonian Affiliations network is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at [affiliations.si.edu](http://affiliations.si.edu).

### **About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational, and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries, and natural assets in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums, and Jennette's Pier, as well as 39 state parks and recreation areas, the North Carolina Zoo, the nation's first state-supported symphonic orchestra, the State Library of North Carolina, the State Archives of North Carolina, the North Carolina Arts Council, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, along with the state Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, call 919-814-6800 or visit [DNCR.nc.gov](http://DNCR.nc.gov).

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